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6/17/98

OUTGOING MESSAGE

Approved For Release 2005/06/09 : CIA-RDP78S01932A000100220018-5

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DATE: 4 MAR 79

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INSTEN NO: UN-57

SUBJECT: BAHR'S TALKS IN MOSCOW

WEST GERMAN FOREIGN MINISTER BAHR, WHO ARRIVED IN MOSCOW ON FEBRUARY 27, WHICH DID NOT APPEAR TO BE HAVING MUCH PROGRESS IN HIS TALKS ~~DISCUSSED~~ WITH SOVIET LEADERS. THE MAIN TOPIC OF CONTENTION IS WEST GERMANY'S PLAN TO OPEN A FEDERAL GOVERNMENT OFFICE IN WEST BERLIN. THE SOVIETS CLAIM THAT THIS WOULD BE A VIOLATION OF THE 1971 QUADRIPARTITE AGREEMENT ON BERLIN AND ARGUE THAT THE OFFICE MIGHT BE A PRECURSOR OF A VASTLY EXPANDED FEDERAL GERMAN PRESENCE IN THE CITY.

4 BAHR'S INITIAL TALKS WITH BREZHNEV AND FIRST DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER KUZNETSOV WERE FRANK, AND NEITHER SIDE GAVE ANY GROUND. ACCORDING TO THE WEST GERMAN AMBASSADOR IN MOSCOW, BAHR RAISED THE PROSPECT THAT BRANDT'S PROJECTED TRIP TO THE USSR COULD BE

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JEOPARDIZED IF THE DESCHAMPS BY HIMSELF TRIED TO RETURN TO SOVIET
 ONE." THE WEST GERMANS BELIEVE THAT NO REAL PROGRESS CAN BE MADE
 UNTIL FOREIGN MINISTER ANDREEV RETURNS FROM THE RUSSIAN EAST,
 AND THEREFORE THEY MAY REPAIR TO MOSCOW DURING THIS.

A SUGGESTION BY ONE OF DESCHAMPS'S CLOSE ADVISERS THAT THE WORD
 "FEDERAL" COULD BE REMOVED FROM THE ENVIRONMENTAL BUREAU'S TITLE
 PROVIDES A HINT THAT THE SOVIETS ARE STILL INTERESTED IN FINDING
 A FACE-SAVING COMPROMISE.

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